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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCF-00 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8112

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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJ: ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON URUGUAY

REF: STATE 26919

1. AT SWEARING IN OF NEW ARMY CINC MORNING FEBRUARY 1, FONMIN PULLED ME ASIDE TO INDICATE AN "ERROR" IN OUR HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT WHICH HE HAD RECEIVED LATE LAST NIGHT. HE REFERRED TO THE PARENTHETICAL STATEMENT IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH THREE WHICH STATED "WHICH INCLUDED EXECUTIONS, TORTURE AND ARBITRARY ARREST." HE OBSERVED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO EXECUTIONS BY THE ARMED FORCES AND THAT INDEED THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE LEGISLATURE AND THE ARMED FORCES WAS OVER THE CONDUCT OF THE COUNTER-TUPAMARO CAMPAIGN IN GENERAL.

2. IN CHECKING EMBASSY SOURCES, I FIND NOTHING WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY THE USE OF THE TERM EXECUTIONS. THE ONLY EXECUTIONS WHICH WERE REPORTED PRIOR TO THE CLOSURE OF THE LEGISLATURE WERE ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE TUPAMAROS. I STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT WE ELIMINATE THE WORD EXECUTIONS BECAUSE IT IS A DISTORTION OF HISTORICAL REALITY. THE USG SHOULD NOT FORMALLY MAKE A SERIOUS ALLEGATION IT CANNOT SUPPORT.

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3. I REGRET NOT HAVING CAUGHT THE INCLUSION OF THIS WORD BY THE DEPARTMENT IN OUR DRAFT WHEN WE CLEARED THE FINAL VERSION. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS EMBASSY WAS ONLY GIVEN A FEW HOURS TO MAKE SUGGESTED CHANGES, DESPITE THE FACT THAT OUR ORIGINAL DRAFT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT WAS SUBMITTED FOUR MONTHS EARLIER.

4. FORTUNATELY, THE EMBARGO IMPOSED BY CONGRESS PER REF SHOULD PERMIT US TO MAKE THIS ONE WORD CORRECTION. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND WE DO SO.

PEZZULLO

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <i>J. Man</i>	DATE <i>4/19/00</i>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____	
TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASEABLE ☒	
RELEASE DENIED ☐	
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